

RIO - 2016

The wait is over and 11 archers have been selected to represent the UK in the Paralympic Games in Rio. The selected athletes are as follows:-

- **John Stubbs MBE** John is a Freeman Archer of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers and former gold medal winner. This is his third Paralympic Games and he says he is just as proud as he was at his first Games in Beijing.
- **Mickey Hall.** An Army veteran who has won silver and gold at the 2014 Invictus Games.
- **Nathan Macqueen.** Nathan was a former professional rugby player and later competed in wheelchair basketball. This is Nathan's first Games and he says "There is nothing more I could want at this time". He has received support from the Trust.
- **John Cavanagh.** John is an Honorary Freeman of the Company and has supported us on the Lord Mayor's float and helping to coach at the schools for disabled children we set up.

This will be John's fifth Paralympics where he hopes to add to his tally of golds and silvers.

- **Jo Frith.** Although she has only been shooting a short while Jo is already a World Champion. She has been previously received support from the Trust.
- **Tania Nadarajah.** Tania is of course well known to the Worshipful Company of Fletchers having been our guest at the recent Installation Dinner when she received the final cheque for the Rio Dream on behalf of Archery GB. Her acceptance speech was inspiring and can be found on the website. Tania only took up competing in 2014, the same year she was selected for the Archery GB squad. This year, she has competed in various European Championships.
- **David Phillips.** After a thirty year break, David returned to archery only two years ago. He is coached by Pippa Britton, a past Paralympian who also featured on the Company's float at the Lord Mayor's Show. The Trust has supported David prepare for the Games.

- **Jess Stretton.** Jess took up archery following the London Paralympics and has recently won gold in internationals in Holland and the Czech Republic. She is 16 years old. She made her international debut in 2015 and then set an international record in Dubai earlier this year. Jess will be helped by the Fletcher's Trust.
- **Jodie Grinham.** Jodie is another young star who took up archery to help her Dad exercise. She began shooting at tournaments in 2009 and two years ago was selected for the Archery GB Squad. Jodie has competed in international events in France, Dubai, Germany and the Czech Republic and has recently been helped by the Trust.
- **John Walker.** Another archer who has quickly risen to the top, John took up archery in 2104 and started competition shooting the following year, the same year he was picked for Archery GB's Squad. He holds two European records and four world records and has won various gold and silver medals.
- **Vicky Jenkins.** Last but not least, Vicky Jenkins is a late addition to the team. Vicky took up competition archery in 2010 and has been supported by the Fletcher's Trust. She has won medals for international duty.

It is really gratifying that so many Paralympians have received support from the Trust and this is apart from the overall help provided by the Road to Rio Award itself.

Fingers crossed for our athletes who will soon be travelling to Rio.

A final quote from Tania: - What I love about archery. “It’s something everyone can do and allows you to compete regardless of ability, age or gender”

Michael Holden
Hon Almoner